

## LIMITED-SOURCES JUSTIFICATION

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
Office of Acquisition Operations  
Technology Acquisition Center  
23 Christopher Way  
Eatontown, NJ 07724
2. Description of Action: The proposed action is to award a sole source, firm-fixed-price, delivery order under General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) Contract Number GS-35F-0037M with Computrition, Inc. (Comuptrition), 8521 Fallbrook Avenue, Suite 100, West Hills, CA 91304.
3. Description of the Supplies or Services: VA Office of Information and Technology Service Delivery and Engineering Veterans Integrated Service Network 4 (VISN 4) Nutrition and Food Services Chiefs are required to provide Nutrition and Food Services programs and services as part of the Cultural Transformation "Healthy Diet" Initiative, PlaneTree agreements, and local patient centered care initiatives. This action is to renew Computrition software and maintenance for ten of the VISN 4 VA Medical Centers (VAMCs) and data center facilities in eight locations. The Contractor shall provide for software license renewals, program enhancements, implementation, training, and support for the existing software. The period of performance shall consists of a 12-month base period, with one 12-month option period for renewals, and one 12-month optional task for additional software applications.
4. Statutory Authority: This acquisition is conducted under the authority of the Multiple-Award Schedule Program. The specific authority providing for a limited source award is Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 8.405-6(a)(1)(i)(B), Only one source is capable of providing the supplies or services required at the level of quality required because the supplies or services are unique or highly specialized.
5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above: Based on the market research, as described in section eight of this justification, it was determined that competition is not viable. Based on the results of the market research it was determined that no other source can provide all the required functionality and be approved in the timeframe that VA requires. Specifically, the alternative software developer, The CBORD Group, Inc, the other resondant to the Request for Information (RFI) stated that it would require approximately nine months to be ready for implementation. Based on historical information, it was determined by the VA technical experts that in order to be fully ready for implementation, it would take approximately 18-months. Specifically, the VISN 4 sites implemented this software in 2012 through 2014 expending approximately 20,000 labor hours to fully implement this program and customizing the Health Level-7 (HL7) interface to Computritions software, which includes all active inventory, recipes, menus, diets, daily production data, patient preferences and meal selections. VISN 4 Nutrition and Food Services have fully implemented and integrated Computrition Foodservice nutrition software and are dependent on it 365 days a year, for 3 meals plus 3 snacks per day directly serving Veterans. To replace this software with that of another vendor would require a complete rewrite of the existing VistA Menu Management Program and HL-7 interface with additional customizations to provide select menu, spoken menu, room service, enhanced nutrient analysis, patient intake analysis and production this would result in a significant negative impact on direct patient care. VA requires support for the deployed solution immediately.

Further, Computrition software is currently the only approved HL-7 interface software for the required Foodservice nutrition services that replaced the VistA Menu Management Program for the majority of VA Nutrition and Food Services. The interface HL-7 refers to a set of international standards for transfer of clinical and administrative data between software applications used by various healthcare providers. HL-7 provides the Computrition Foodservice nutrition software with the pertinent data from VistA. The interface provides a uni-directional download of admission, discharges, and transfers of all patients 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. These downloads update the patient's record in the menu management program and provide date of birth, social security number, and diet order. If this information is not constantly downloaded, patient safety is violated. Additionally, it was determined that Computrition, as the Original Software Developer, is sole provider of the required software, licenses and services. Specifically, Computrition Foodservice nutrition software and maintenance is a proprietary software package implemented widely throughout VA, and its functionality is developed, tested, owned and maintained by Computrition. Computrition does not authorize any other entity to sell, support, or train this software.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in the market research section of this document. This effort did not yield any additional sources that can meet the Government's requirements. There is no competition anticipated for this acquisition. In accordance with FAR 5.301 and 8.405-6(a)(2), this action will be synopsisized at award on the Federal Business Opportunities Page (FBO) and the justification will be made publicly available. This justification will be posted with the Request for Quotation in accordance with FAR 8.405-6(b)(2).

7. Actions to Increase Competition: The Government will continue to conduct market research to ascertain if there are changes in the market place that would enable future actions to be competed. In the future, VA anticipates that this requirement will be competed on a best value basis. Additionally, prior to exercising of the option, VA will conduct market research to determine if another software with the same functionality is approved for use in VA.

8. Market Research: VA performed further market research in June 2016 to determine whether any new technologies had come to market that would be capable of providing a similar solution. Additionally, an RFI (VA118-16-N-1601) was issued on the Federal Business Opportunities website in August 2016 to identify if similar items are available from alternative sources. The RFI requested all interested vendors to submit a capability statement in response to the posted draft Performance Work Statement. The RFI closed on August 30, 2016 with two responses received, one from Computrition and one from CBORD. Based upon this research it was determined that there are not any other products that provide all the required functionality and that can be approved in the timeframe that VA requires, as discussed in section five of this document. As part of the RFI, Computrition provided a sole-source letter, stating to the Government that it is the only source of the required maintenance, licenses, and services.

9. Other Facts: None